

sometimes when they were perched, but mostly flying; often the adults hit the young, with their talons interlocked, making them lose their balance and to lose height.

On 2 September the introduced young (age 124 d) was seen trying to kleptoparasitize a Booted Eagle (*Hieraetus pennatus*) which had caught a rabbit. On 8 September, one adult was seen eating in an oak tree 200 m from the fostered juvenile, which begged but was not fed. Two days later it was flushed from the ground while it was feeding on a rabbit, but we cannot be sure whether the rabbit had been killed by the eaglet or brought to it by the adults. These observations are in accordance with the decreasing feeding rate of the adults to their offspring which occurred during the postfledging period in other family groups studied (González et al. in prep.).

In conclusion, these observations proved that the introduction was successful, and the adopted young reached independence and dispersed normally. This kind of fostering during the postfledging period could be a valuable management technique useful in reintroducing salvage or confiscated young raptors or for the release of captive bred birds.

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Harrir Kills Mobbing Willet

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On 2 July 1984, while studying the breeding biology of the Northern Harrier (*Circus cyaneus hudsonius*), on a Long Island, New York barrier beach, I saw a female harrier kill one of two mobbing Eastern Willets (*Catoptrophorus semipalmatus*). The incident took place on a tidal salt marsh where both species breed. Vegetation is predominantly *Spartina* grasses interspersed with marsh elder (*Iva frutescens*) in the slightly elevated, drier areas where willets nest. Dense stands of common reed (*Phragmites communis*) flank the marsh and provide nesting habitat for the harriers. I witnessed frequent encounters between harriers and willets, especially as the breeding season progressed. Female harriers hunted over the marsh areas adjacent to nests, which usually brought them near to, or over, willet nests. When this occurred, willet pairs mobbed the intruder. Prior to this observation, however, such incidents had failed to elicit more than a mild response (e.g., head-turning to look at the mobbers and/or leg-dropping) from a harrier.

Generally, harriers respond to mobbing by increasing their flight speed while moving away from the disputed area (Bildstein 1982; M. England pers. obs.). Sometimes a particularly persistent or bold assault is acknowledged with short bursts of chattering, a vocalization similar to "kekking", which I have heard used during nest defense. Avoidance maneuvers, such as those described by Bildstein (1982) for harriers being mobbed by passerines were also observed. These include "rolling", a change in flight elevation, and a shift from the "to and fro" pattern of "quartering" flight to straight-line flight, again while moving away from the area.

On 2 July, a female harrier, hunting low over the marsh, apparently passed close to a willet nest, as both members of the pair flew up and began mobbing the harrier. At first, the harrier continued moving in her original direction. Then, as one of the willets flew under the harrier from behind, the harrier slowed, then suddenly, at high speed, seized the willet in mid-flight in one foot. With the

prey dangling from the talons of her outstretched foot, the harrier glided approximately 50 m before landing. The harrier remained on the ground plucking her kill for 8 min while the surviving willet continued circling and calling overhead. When the harrier rose carrying the dead willet in two feet pressed close to her body, and flew approximately 0.5 km to the northeast, the remaining willet ceased calling.

An observation by Watson (1976) for the Hen Harrier (*Circus cyaneus cyaneus*) in Europe, concerns the taking of a mobbing Lapwing (*Vanellus vanellus*) in a similar fashion. In that instance, the Lapwing was released alive several minutes later. Harriers are dietary generalists capable of taking relatively large prey (Errington & Breckenridge 1936; Bent 1937; Craighead & Craighead 1956; Hamerstrom 1969). However, in the course of my three-year study, this is the first time predatory behavior was observed during mobbing.

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NEWS AND REVIEWS

Working Bibliography of the Golden Eagle and the Genus *Aquila* by Maurice N. LeFranc, Jr. and William S. Clark. National Wildlife Federation. Scientific Technical Series No. 7, 1983. xxx + 234 pp. Price \$14.95 U.S. + \$1.55 U.S. postage and handling. Available from Institute for Wildlife Research, National Wildlife Federation, 1412 16th St. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036.

The Raptor Information Center of the National Wildlife Federation has earned a debt of gratitude from raptor biologists worldwide for its production of a series of working bibliographies on major taxa of birds of prey. This is the third of these keyworded, computer-generated reference works, having been preceded by volumes dealing with owls (Clark, R.J., D.G. Smith and L.H. Kelso, 1978. Working Bibliography of Owls of the World, NWF Scient./Tech. Ser. No. 1) and the Bald Eagle (Lincer, J.L., W.S. Clark and M.N. LeFranc, Jr. 1979. Working Bibliography of the Bald Eagle, NWF Scient./Tech. Ser. No. 2). The three books are the concrete results of a project devoted to the compilation of literature citations that was begun under Jeff Lincer's administration as first director of the Raptor Information Center and continued to successful completion under his successor, Bill Clark.

Because the present volume includes references to the genus *Aquila* worldwide, the organization of the specific format is more like that of the owl volume than the Bald Eagle bibliography. This format, by now familiar to raptor students here and abroad, consists of introductory material followed by a master list of citations, arranged alphabetically by author, with each entry assigned a reference number. This is succeeded by a permuted list of keywords, which provides cross-references to each author entry on the basis of up to a dozen or more selected keywords, which

collectively describe the major content of that particular entry; hence specific keywords deal with such subjects as nesting, distribution, research techniques, management and conservation.

The highlight of the introductory material in this volume is a foreword written by the late Leslie Brown (in his inimitable salty style) wherein he reviews some general features of the genus and describes the tedious "hack-work" (his word) required of raptor students who attempted to conduct literature searches before working bibliographies of this type were available. Chapter 1 contains the authors' introduction and acknowledgments, with information on the production and organization of the bibliography. Chapter 2 is an introduction to the members of the genus *Aquila*, with a paragraph or two devoted to the description, range and general characteristics of each of ten species (instead of 9 as recognized by Brown and some other authorities; the authors state their good reasons for treating the Steppe Eagle, *Aquila nipalensis*, as a full species instead of as a race of *A. rapax*). This completes the general and introductory material, and the working bibliography itself comprises the remainder of the chapters, which are arranged as follows: Chapter 3 - Master List of Citations (3459 entries), Chapter 4 - Permuted List of Keywords ("Abandonment" through "Wintering Population"), Chapter 5 - Species Index to Citations (ranging from 18 for Gurney's Eagle to 2305 for the Golden Eagle), Chapter 6 - Geographic Index of Citations (listed by sub-